# **STIPULATION**

RE: Docket No. 2008-314-C – Application of New Dimension Communications, Incorporated d/b/a Fast Phones for Certification as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier

New Dimension Communications, Incorporated ("New Dimension") is a certified CLEC that offers local exchange service and meets the facilities requirements identified in 47 CFR 54.201(f) for universal service funding by leasing the physical components of the telecommunications network necessary to provide the nine services identified in 47 CFR 54.201(d)(1) through its Commercial Agreements with AT&T South Carolina. In addition, New Dimension agrees to advertise the availability of supported services using media of general distribution.

The federal USF provides support to four programs, each administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC"): (1) financial support to carriers serving high cost areas; (2) the E-rate program, which provides discounted services (local and long distance telephone service, Internet access, and internal connection) to eligible schools and libraries; (3) assistance to low income consumers (discounted installation and monthly telephone services; and (4) discounted service to rural health care providers.

New Dimension requests ETC designation in wire centers located throughout the service area of AT&T South Carolina, a non-rural carrier, and commits to offer the Lifeline packages and Linkup services to all qualifying customers in accordance with the Commission regulations. Additionally, New Dimension has limited its requested USF support to the federal USF low income support program. New Dimension certifies that all low income USF funding it receives will be used to provide a credit to its Lifeline and Link-up eligible customers, consistent with 47 CFR 54.403. Additionally, New Dimension agrees to offer Lifeline packages and Link-up service consistent with the rates, terms, and conditions contained in its tariff and will publish the availability of these same services on its website. New Dimension commits that the local calling area for its plans are consistent with incumbent local exchange carrier's calling scope and its calling plans provide unlimited local calling within such areas.

New Dimension agrees to include in its quarterly Service Quality Report the number and justification of applications held for more than 30 days and the number and justification of applications that were denied. New Dimension will only seek direct low income support from the Federal Universal Service Fund for those lines provided through the use of its own facilities or through a combination of its own facilities and the leased facilities of another carrier. New Dimension also agrees to report quarterly the percentage of consumers provided Lifeline via resale versus via facilities-based sales.

Until modified by the Commission, New Dimension agrees to utilize TANF, Food Stamps, and Medicaid as the qualifying criteria for Lifeline and Link-up services throughout the AT&T South Carolina territory.

New Dimension agrees to provide Lifeline customers an additional \$3.50 credit in order that the federal matching monies can be maximized. This will yield a Lifeline credit of \$13.50 per month which is consistent with the credit offered throughout the AT&T South Carolina service area.

New Dimension agrees that it will abide by all advertising, reporting and verification requirements established by the FCC and the Commission.

Should New Dimension seek designation as an ETC for high cost support, New Dimension will file an additional and separate application with the Commission that addresses all applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, an appropriate build-out plan that includes the use of its own facilities in addition to those obtained through commercial agreements to provide services to unserved and underserved areas.

New Dimension agrees to revise and refile its two-year advertising and outreach plan to eliminate any references to an income-based eligibility requirement for participation in the Lifeline and Link-up programs.

New Dimension agrees to file and maintain a current electronic version of its tariff on the Commission's website.

New Dimension shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations regarding ETC designation and reporting requirements. More specifically, New Dimension agrees to abide by the Commission regulations regarding designation of an eligible telecommunications carrier which became effective on May 23, 2008. New Dimension also agrees to abide by the Commission regulations regarding annual reporting requirements which became effective June 26, 2009.

The Parties represent that the terms of this Stipulation are based upon full and accurate information known as of the date this Stipulation is executed. If, after execution, either Party is made aware of information that conflicts, nullifies, or is otherwise materially different than that information upon which this Stipulation is based, either Party may withdraw from the Stipulation with written notice to the other Party;

The Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") does not oppose the application of New Dimension for certification as an eligible telecommunications carrier.

In the event ORS conducts cross-examination of New Dimension, such cross-examination shall not be inconsistent with the agreed upon terms contained herewith.

On behalf of New Dimension Communications, Inc.:

Scott Elliott, Esquire

Elliott & Elliott 721 Olive Street

Columbia, South Carolina 29205

On behalf of the Office of Regulatory Staff:

Shealy Boland Reibold, Esquire 1401 Main Street, Suite 900

Columbia, South Carolina 29201

## **BEFORE**

# THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

## **DOCKET NO. 2008-314-C**

IN RE:	)	
Application of New Dimension Communications,	)	<b>CERTIFICATE OF</b>
Inc. d/b/a Fast Phones for Certification as an	)	SERVICE
Eligible Telecommunications Carrier	)	

This is to certify that I, Chrystal L. Morgan, an employee with the Office of Regulatory Staff, have this date served one (1) copy of the **STIPULATION** in the above-referenced matter to the person(s) named below by causing said copy to be deposited in the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepaid and affixed thereto, and addressed as shown below:

Scott Elliott, Esquire Elliott & Elliott, P.A. 721 Olive Street Columbia, SC, 29205

Lance J.M. Steinhart, Esquire Lance J.M. Steinhart, P.C. 1720 Windward Concourse, Suite 115 Alpharetta, GA, 30005

Chrystal L. Morgan
Chrystal L. Morgan

October 28, 2009 Columbia, South Carolina